

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 012856
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-01 HA-05 L-03 /020 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:PGSMITH:JJ

APPROVED BY AF/E:RPOST

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 012856

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, PINS, MI

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST - STATUS OF ALEX
KALINDAWALO

REF: A. 77 STATE 176012; B. 77 LILONGWE 1201

1. DEPARTMENT HAS AGAIN BEEN CONTACTED BY OFFICE OF
CONGRESSMAN DRINAN, CONCERNING CONTINUED DETENTION OF
ALEX KALINDAWALO. ACCORDING TO STAFFER, HIS CASE IS
THREATENING TO BECOME SOMETHING OF A CAUSE AT BOSTON U.

2. AFTER RECEIVING REFTTEL B LAST JULY, DEPARTMENT
BRIEFED DRINAN STAFFER ON BACKGROUND OF KALINDAWALO
DETENTION, CAUTIONING THAT ALLEGATIONS AGAINST HIM, WHILE
THEY APPEARED VERY DAMAGING, WERE BASED ON HEARSAY.
STAFFER NOW WISHES TO HEAD OFF ANY CAUSE CELEBRE, BUT
IS UNCERTAIN EXACTLY HOW CASE AGAINST KALINDAWALO SHOULD
BE PORTRAYED TO HIS AMERICAN FRIENDS.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE STATUS REPORT
ON KALINDAWALO DETENTION, AND EMBASSY'S RECOMMENDATIONS
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ON LINE TO BE TAKEN ON BY DRINAN STAFFER. SPECIFICALLY,
IS HEARSAY EVIDENCE STRONG ENOUGH SO THAT WE COULD ADVISE
STAFFER TO SAY THAT "STATE DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS THAT..."?

4. DEPARTMENT NOW OUT OF TOUCH WITH BERNARD HARAWA.
IF KALINDAWALO'S U.S. FRIENDS WISHED A TOTALLY PRIVATE
SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON BACKGROUND OF HIS DETENTION,

CAN EMBASSY SUGGEST ANYONE IN THIS COUNTRY WHO WOULD
BE KNOWLEDGEABLE, SUCH AS A FORMER FULBRIGHTER FROM
CHANCELLOR?

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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